

LOCAL

EPA orders massive clean-up at Double A Metals

Representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 said recently that cleanup is proceeding quickly at the Double A Metals site, 3321 S. Pulaski Road. The EPA began work at the abandoned metals recycling facility in early February and is expected to be completed in April.

Hazardous materials found at the Superfund site include scattered piles and containers of metal processing by-products contaminated by lead, as well as open containers of bag-house dust. Prior

to the EPA's involvement — which was requested by the Chicago Department of Environment — the site was poorly secured and a target for fly-dumpers and vandals. The site is now under 24-hour security protection.

When completed, an estimated 60 drums of processing by-products, 20 drums of waste oils and solvents, and 8,000 cubic yards of hazardous material will have been treated, removed, and transported to an industrial process waste landfill. After the cleanup, the City of Chicago

expects to tear down the remaining buildings and evaluate the site for future re-use.

Estimated cost of the cleanup is \$600,000.

The four-acre site is located in Chicago's 22nd Ward, bordered to the south by a Commonwealth Edison power plant. The nearest home is located about 300 feet north of the site, on Pulaski Road.

"The EPA is pleased with the quick pace of cleanup and cooperation from the City of Chicago," said Regional Superfund Director William

Muno. "Any potential hazards to the community have been contained and will soon be removed completely."

Double A Metals, a subsidiary of Dixon, Illinois-based Jepsco Metals, ceased operations in 1991. Between 1983 and 1990, the site was operated by the Jay Armstrong Metals Company, and from 1965 to 1983, by the H. Winter Metal Company.

Activity at the site goes back to about 1917, including a truck garage and other manufacturing operations.

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EPA Cleaning Up Local Hazardous Waste Site

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EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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